

# ALPENA WEEKLY ARGUS.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 3, 1871.

## School Law.

The following is the new school law, requiring that all the children, between the ages of eight and fourteen years, shall attend school at least twelve weeks each year:

**Section 1.** The people of the State of Michigan enact, That every parent, guardian or other person in the State of Michigan, having control and charge of any child or children between the ages of eight and fourteen years shall be required to send such child or children to a public school for a period of at least twelve weeks in each school year, commencing on the first Monday of September, at least six weeks of which shall be consecutive, unless such child or children are excused from such attendance by the Board of the School District in which such parents or guardians reside, upon its being shown to their satisfaction that his bodily or mental condition has been such as to prevent his attendance at school or application to study for the period required, or that such child or children are taught in a private school, or at home, in such branches as are usually taught in primary schools, or have already acquired the ordinary branches of learning taught in the public school: *Provided*, In case a public school shall not be taught for three months during the year, within two miles by the nearest traveled road, of the residence of any person within the school district he shall not be liable to the provisions of this act.

**Sec. 2.** It shall be the duty of the director of every school district, and President of every school Board within the State, to cause to be posted three notices of this law in the most public places in such district, or published in one newspaper in the township for three weeks, during the month of August in each year, the expense of such publication to be paid out of the funds of said district.

**Sec. 3.** In case any parent, guardian or other person shall fail to comply with the provisions of this act, said parent, guardian or other person shall be liable to a fine of not less than \$5 or more than \$10 for the first offense, nor less than \$10 or more than \$20 for the second and every subsequent offense; said fine shall be collected by the director of said district in the name of the district, in an action of debt or on the case, and when collected shall be paid to the assessor of the district in which the defendant resided when the defense was committed, and by him accounted for the same as money raised for school purposes.

**Sec. 4.** It shall be the duty of the director or president, to prosecute any offense occurring under this act, and any director or president neglecting to prosecute for such fine within ten days after a written notice has been served on him by any taxpayer in said district, unless the person so complained of shall be excused by the District Board, shall be liable to a fine of not less than \$20 or more than \$50, which shall be prosecuted for and in the name of the assessor of said district, and the fine when collected shall be paid to the assessor, to be accounted for as in section three of this act.

W. H. H. Bartram, editor of the *Midland Times*, who visited this city on the 19th of July, thus speaks of us:

"There are two printing offices, the *Pioneer* published by A. C. Tefft, and the *Argus* by Viall. After patient search we found the former but not the editor. It is a pioneer in all respects. It is printed on the *pioneer* material of the *Thunder Bay Gazette*, and in its local columns there is that dearth of local matter which characterizes the columns of a pioneer paper in the words instead of that life and energy, that devotion to the interests of the locality in which it is published, which makes a paper indispensable to every household and gives it a support which secures prosperity and encourages a publisher to increased effort for the growth of the town and development of its resources. The *Argus* is a new paper just started by M. M. Viall, formerly of the *Pontiac Bill Poster*, is a neatly printed paper, and its local columns abound with fresh and interesting matter, which is already bringing the sure reward of liberal patronage. We found Mr. V. hard at work and fully determined to make the *Argus* a success."

## Horrors in Persia.

The famine in Persia is causing dreadful havoc. The mortality in the province of Khorassan averages three hundred daily, and so great is the distress that the dead bodies of the victims are devoured by the survivors; and men women and children are in some cases killed to render the supply of food more abundant. The plague has also appeared among the Persians, and the Turkish Government has been compelled to draw a sanitary cordon along the border of its dominions.

## Slaughter on a Railroad.

A freight train of 36 cars on the Toledo and Walash Railroad came in to collision with a gravel train between St. Louis and Edwardsville, Ill., at about 6 o'clock July 25.—The freight train was heavily loaded with grain, and in the gravel train were a number laborers returning home from their work. Six of the laborers were killed outright, and four others so seriously injured that little hopes are entertained of their recovery. About one-half of the remainder of the

laborers were more or less injured, some of them quite seriously.

The collision occurred on a short curve, and neither of the engineers was aware that another train was on the track until it was too late. The engineers and firemen of both trains jumped off in time to save their lives. Both locomotives and a large number of cars were demolished.

## Negroes Executed in Virginia.

Wm. Henry Johnson and Richard Green, two negroes, found guilty of the murder of a prominent and highly respected citizen of Petersburg, Chas. Friend, in March last, were on the 28th, hanged in Prince George County, in the presence of 1,500 to 2,000 spectators, black and white. Both criminals made short and forcible speeches on the gallows, protesting their innocence. Even after the black caps had been adjusted they were loud in their protestations that they were not guilty. The execution took place at 12:45 P. M., and passed off quietly.

## Bon Constrictor Captured.

At the exhibition of Cole's circus and menagerie in this city about a month since, a boa constrictor escaped from the cage at night, and disappeared.—Search was made for the animal, but he could not be found, and was given up for lost.

Yesterday as some ladies were walking down Lyon street they came suddenly upon the huge uplifted head of an enormous snake. Its head thrust up through the wooden sidewalk rolled from side to side, and its little black eyes glittering angrily at a small rat dog that was dodging around and barking at the strange brute. The ladies gave the alarm, when quite a crowd began to collect. Dr. Boyer quickly mastered the situation. Procuring a large box and a long pole he removed several boards of the walk and soon had his snakeship safely caged.

It proved to be the boa constrictor lost by Cole's menagerie. It had taken refuge under the board sidewalk, where it had subsisted probably on rats and other delicacies of the season. It is now in safe keeping and will be restored to its owner. It is about eight feet long.—*Sedalia Times*.

## Attempt at Suicide.

Several days ago one of the keepers at the State prison brought to Mr. Morris, the Agent, a long, well-sharpened knife, which he found concealed in one of the shops near where a convict by the name of Florence J. Overdelinde was at work. Mr. Morris sent for this man, and asked him if he had concealed the weapon. He acknowledged that he had, and on being asked what he intended to do with it, replied that he intended to commit suicide.—His story was heard very incredulously, and he was sent back to his work, a close watch being kept upon his movements, as it was supposed that he was endeavoring to escape.

Saturday night, the guard in front of the cells chanced to look up at Overdelinde's (who had been confined as usual after working hours) and discovered something hanging against the door, from one of the bars. He investigated the matter, and found that Overdelinde had hung himself from the top bar of the door with his suspenders, which were of hickory shirting. He was immediately cut down, and on being taken from the cell was found to be alive, a portion of his weight being sustained by the door, against which he was hanging. Restoratives were applied, and in a short time he was brought to his senses. He is still desirous of killing himself, although Mr. Morris tried to reconcile him to his fate.

Overdelinde was sent to the prison from Grand Rapids, last month, for attempting to kill his wife in a fit of jealousy, to serve out a sentence of 15 years. He is a Hollander, and is afraid that his parents, living in that country, will hear of his imprisonment. He has been somewhat insane since his attempt to take his own life, and has been placed in the hospital under guard, in order to prevent him from making another attempt to kill himself.—*Jackson Citizen*.

## From Rodgers City.

From our Correspondent.

DEAR ARGUS: Rather affectionate it is, not upon so short an acquaintance, yet, notwithstanding your very recent appearance among us, I cannot fail but in you to recognize a journal having a vital interest in the welfare and prosperity not only of Alpena, but of this whole section of the country. And it is certainly refreshing to feel this, after having been snubbed so long by your contemporary, the *Pioneer*, whose constricted pages seldom embrace any items that could not be gathered within the hallowed precincts of Alpena city limits.

However, Rogers City and her resources is what I must now introduce

to you, and among the busy rush of the various branches of labor and industry constantly going on, and the numerous prospects that are ever under way for educational and every other species of advancement, I hardly know yet which to give the most prominent position in my letter. Education should, I think, take preference. The beneficial effects of the Union School bill, so ably carried through the Legislature at its last session, by Mr. Albert Molitor, may be witnessed in the elegant edifice of which the people of Rogers City may well feel proud, and in which the tender twigs are already being bent.

Perhaps outsiders will be more remarkably impressed with the rapid strides that have been made during the fifteen months of her existence, from the fact that here is, I believe, the only place north of Saginaw Valley where wagons, carts and farming implements are manufactured. An immense building is devoted to this branch, and in connection with it, and under the same roof, is a blacksmith shop in which two forges are kept working almost day and night, and a large department in which the stock of seasoned hard wood, required in the construction of wagons, etc., is carefully piled.

Messrs. Rogers & Molitor's saw mill seems to be running very successfully, and employs a great number of hands, in the manufacture of lumber, shingles and lath, while the multiparious descriptions of outside labor that these gentlemen have always in operation makes it easier for men to find work than for the Company always to procure sufficient labor.

Many of the houses that are in course of construction would not disgrace the best streets of our largest cities, both in point of stability and finish. No stoves sticking through the roofs of half-finished shanties, but handsome brick chimneys and well shingled roofs, and rest assured they do not go begging for occupants. The streets are handsomely laid out, well fenced in, and the town presents a very beautiful appearance. The town site rising well above the level of the Lake, high, dry, and eminently healthy.

The weather permitting, which it almost invariably does, large crews may be seen busily engaged building additions to the already extensive docks and breakwater, for, besides the large quantities of lumber, posts, poles and cordwood that are shipped from here, the shipment of farm produce, and the immense quantities of goods required for the inhabitants of Rogers City and the whole township of Rogers, comes almost entirely per Rogers City. A slab breakwater is in process, which will run for about half a mile along the coast, forming a perfect barricade against the sea, and a safe protection for small crafts. Upon this will be erected numerous fish houses to meet the requirements of parties who are removing to the splendid fishing grounds that lie off here. Mr. Saxon, late of Sugar Island, is now located here, and with his large stock of gill nets, etc., is already actively engaged and greatly encouraged by the catch taken. He says it is much in excess of anything he expected, and that "Sugar Island is nowhere." He expected to pack for the outside market, but the local consumption is so great that he sells all he takes before his boat is hardly made fast, and then disappointed females, who arrive too late, cooly tell him to put out and catch some more. He says that he wants opposition to prevent being run to death. The Lake is large, a good harbor is all that is required, and this great boon to fishermen, Rogers City can now boast of,—not formed by the hands of nature, but built through the enterprise of Rogers & Molitor.

Such vegetables as young potatoes, beans, peas, beets, lettuce and onions come in in abundance from the country around. The crops look most encouraging. Most of the settlers are now cutting grass on the many wild hay marshes that are sprinkled so beautifully through the township.—The potato bug has not yet reached Rogers City, and the farmers are universally jubilant at having escaped them.

Last week the handsome new boarding house of Rogers & Molitor was completed, on which occasion the employees of the Company and their friends concluded to inaugurate it by a grand festival and dance. All seemed thoroughly to enter into and enjoy the festivities of the evening. Terpsichorean exercises were kept up briskly until an early hour in the morning, notwithstanding the thermometer stood at ninety, and the perspiration was visible in heavy streams rolling down the faces of the dancers, and white muslin looked very like wet rags.

About 300 families have now located in and around Rogers City, and magnificent tracts of fertile and well timbered lands still remain open to settlement, and in close proximity to

the old and new State Roads. Settlers in Alpena county are even now shaking hands over the boundaries with those who have located in this township, and a complete chain of farms will soon connect Rogers City with Alpena. In order to reap the full and joint benefit of this influx, the people of Alpena should unite with those of Rogers in using their utmost endeavors toward obtaining such an appropriation as would enable us thoroughly to open out and make the State Road between Alpena and Cheboygan in a traveling condition before the fall. The new State Road, running from here to meet the Duncan City and Alpena Road, will be fully completed before then, and will be one of the best roads in the upper portion of the State. The township roads are also all made either to cross or tap this main road, and the main road itself, which is the trunk of all these roads, and the only means of outlet in the winter season for the traveling public from either Cheboygan or Rogers City to the outside world, is alone unfit for that purpose, notwithstanding the large sums of money that has been spent upon it.

Yours,  
SECRETARY.

## News Items.

A tape worm, measuring more than thirty feet in length, was recently taken from a young man at Davisburgh, in Oakland county.

The Ohio prohibitionists propose to put a ticket in the field in every county in the State, except those in which either the Democratic or Republican candidates will pledge themselves to vote for prohibition.

On Friday week, Mr. Nathan Gibbs, a highly esteemed and worthy citizen of Battle Creek, while on his way up Jefferson street, and when near the grocery store of J. M. Guernsey, fell on the sidewalk and immediately expired. The cause of his death was pronounced to be apoplexy of the heart. The deceased has resided in that city for the past eighteen years, and at the time of his death was in his forty-second year. Mr. G. conducted a blacksmith shop on South Jefferson street. His wife and three children have the sympathy of the entire community in their hour of deep sorrow.

Willie, oldest child of Mr. Stewart Walter, a boy of about eight years of age, was drowned in the Battle Creek river in the vicinity of the works of Messrs. Nichols, Shepard & Co., at Battle Creek, on Monday week. He, in company with a few playmates, was endeavoring to wade the stream, when he unfortunately stepped into a deep place, and being unable to swim, sank to the bottom. Immediate assistance was rendered by the employees at the machine shops, and the body recovered, but life was found to be extinct.—The parents of the child have the sincere sympathy of the community in their severe and sudden affliction.

There was a very severe hail and wind storm in the southeastern part of Jackson county Wednesday afternoon, blowing down stacks, unroofing buildings, destroying orchards, killing sheep, and doing other damage.

Another mineral spring has come to light at Wyandotte. It's medicinal properties are sulphur and iron. It is on the property of Mr. Potter, and is valued at \$15,000.

An unsuccessful attempt was made a few nights ago to burn an Irish Protestant Church in Williamsburg, New York.

The postoffice at Lima, Ohio, was burglarized Monday night week.—Two hundred dollars in stamps and money were taken.

James Ochs, a night watchman on the Missouri Pacific Railroad, at Franklin, was killed by a passing freight train July 22d.

A violent hail storm passed over a portion of Pike county, Missouri, about two weeks ago, completely destroying all corn and tobacco crops in its path.

Frederick Seymour, second officer of the New York steamship *Lodona*, fell overboard and was drowned on the 18th inst., off Fryngspan shoal. A dispatch from Des Moines, Iowa, states that James Guyon, connected with Robinson's Circus, was killed there Sunday night week by some person unknown.

A man, name unknown, was killed some twelve miles from St. Louis on Monday, of last week, by having his skull smashed by a stone in the hands of unknown parties.

The County Court of St. Louis has approved the action of County Collector Maguire, in his attempt to collect delinquent taxes of the Iron Mountain, Pacific & North Missouri Railroads and authorized him to employ counsel at the county's expense to defend any suit that may be brought against him or his bondsmen.

A big row, resulting in the death of two Indians and one colored man, took place a few days since at a place two miles west of Fort Arbuckle.—There was a camp meeting going on of

colored people and Indians, when several bad characters made their appearance with whisky, and a number of Indians and colored men getting drunk a fight ensued, with the above result.

Elias Wright, son of E. P. Wright of Plainsfield, was so severely injured a day or two ago, while logging, that he died in a few hours.

Benjamin J. Alcott, an Englishman, and Alfred Rigma, a Canadian, were arrested in Boston as the robbers of the Dominion Bank at Toronto, on the 20th of June. They were detected offering several stolen bonds to the brokers. In their trunks were found large quantities of burglars' tools.—Both were held to await further developments.

Paul Browling was drowned a few days ago, at Au Sable, while swinging a "jack" across the river. He was a resident of Ontario, and leaves no family.

Vermont has lost in population. New York does not consume much beef this summer.

England will not construct any more iron-plated ships at present.

Mr. Clay, late Minister to Russia, has introduced into this country a new illuminating contrivance called the perpetual candle.

Secretary Seward has insured his life for one hundred thousand dollars.

On Long Island, they grind crabs by the ton for fertilizers.

Boston ships ice to Demerara.

## New Advertisements.

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